

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## GRANT COMPETITION ANNOUNCED FOR 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS

The Nebraska Department of Education is requesting proposals for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers 2016 grant competition.

The goal of the 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC program is to establish or expand community learning centers that provide students with academic enrichment opportunities as well as activities that complement the students' regular academic programs.

About \$2 million is available to successful Nebraska applicants who offer services to eligible school buildings where at least 40 percent of the students qualified for free or reduced priced meals as reported on the 2014-15 State of the Schools Report.

Two types of 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC grants are available:

- 1. First-Time Grants for applicants proposing to serve eligible school building populations that have never been served by a 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC grant, and
- 2. Continuation Grants for applicants who have successfully implemented 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC programs for five years and who propose continuing those programs to the same eligible school building populations.

Proposals for the grant competition must be postmarked no later than Feb. 1, 2016. The grant application, other information as well as eligibility requirements and funding priorities are available on the Nebraska Department of Education web site at: http://www.education.ne.gov/21stcclc/.

A technical assistance grant writing workshop for First-Time grant applicants will be conducted in the following three locations:

- October 21, 2015 1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. CDT, Educational Service Unit #7, 2657 44th Avenue, Walnut Room, Columbus
- October 26, 2015 2:30 p. m. 4:30 p.m. CDT, Educational Service Unit #10, 76 Plaza Boulevard, Room "A", Kearney

 October 29, 2015 — 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. CDT, Nebraska State Office Building, 14th & "M" Streets, 6th Floor, V-Tel Conference Room, Lincoln. You may also participate in the Lincoln workshop using technology. For details and to register, please go to the website.

Interested individuals are encouraged to attend one of these workshops with other school and community representatives that wish to collaborate. For additional information, contact Jan Handa, grants manager for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers program, at: <a href="mailto:jan.handa@nebraska.gov">jan.handa@nebraska.gov</a> or at 402.471.0876.